(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take to maintain ground-water level to the desired levels in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Long term observation made during 1981—90 had revealed decline in ground water levels of the order of 2 to 4 meters in certain pockets of Madhya Pradesh. The localised pockets where decline in water level has occurred are located in districts of Jagdalpur, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Rewa, Jabalpur, Balghat, Seoni, Chindwara, Narsinghpur, Chattarpur, Panna, Damoh, Bhind, Morena, Gwalior, Shivpuri, Guna, Hoshangabad, Bhopal, Ujjain, Dewas, Indore, Khargaon, Ambikapur and Mandsaur.

(c) Central Ground Water Board has formulated a scheme for Ground Water Recharge in critical blocks in the States including Madhya Pradesh.

Drip Irrigation scheme for Cotton Growing Areas

956. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have evolved a special drip irrigation scheme for cotton growing areas in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many cotton growing areas of Madhya Pradesh are likely to be covered under the scheme and likely to be provided drip irrigation system with details thereof;

(d) whether Government have earmarked funds for this purpose; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) The Central Government has proposed to provide Rs. 500 crores to the State Governments to take up a number of schemes under the programme of assistance to small/Marginal farmers which include drip irrigation system among small/marginal cotton cultivators.

(c) The Government of India has not received any specific proposal from State Government of Madhya Pradesh regarding cotton growing areas likely to be covered under the scheme for providing drip irrigation system.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 26.22 crores has been allocated to state Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, out of which Rs. 11.16 Crores have been released to the State Government for implementation of all the schemes of assistance to small/marginal farmers including drip irrigation system for cotton cultivators.

Bansagar Reservoir

957. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of WATER REOSURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that agreement on Bansagar Reservoir clearly provided for one MAF water to be utilized for irrigation by Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) why the project has not been cleared so far even after detailed examination by Central Water Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA) : (a) The inter-State agreement of September 1973 on Bansagar Project entered into by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar provides a storage of one million acre feet in Bansagar Project for Uttar Predesh to be used from the Bansagar Dam and by lifting from the Sone river downstream of Bansagar.

(b) After techno-economic appraisal, Bansagar Canal Project of Uttar Pradesh was considered by the Advisory Committee in July, 1990. As decided therein, Uttar Pradesh Government is required to obtain clearance from environment and forest angles from Ministry of Environment & Forests. Also the State Government is required to obtain concurrence from Government of Bihar, being the lower riparian State, to delink the clearance of this project from the issue of overall reallocation of waters of Sone basin.